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Note verbale dated 27 July 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations has the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 27 July 2011 from Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations has the further honour to request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 27 July 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

I have the honour to convey to you the wish of the Government of Iraq that the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) should be extended for a further period of 12 months, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 1936 (2010).

Thanks to their efforts in the previous year, the political blocs succeeded in forming a national partnership Government. This achievement came after prolonged consultations which affirmed their desire that power in Iraq should be transferred democratically and peacefully and in accordance with the Constitution. Political and diplomatic relations between Iraq, on the one hand, and Arab and foreign countries, on the other, flourished in that period, thereby validating the course of the political process in Iraq and giving the Government of Iraq greater credibility at the Arab, regional and international levels. United States troops will withdraw at the end of the current year, in accordance with the agreement concluded between Iraq and the United States in 2008 providing for the withdrawal of those troops and regularizing their temporary presence, and Iraqi security forces will assume full responsibility for maintaining security throughout the country. Over the coming period, Iraq will enhance its cooperation with the United States of America on the basis of the Strategic Framework Agreement concluded between the friendly countries in 2008. It will also enhance cooperation at the international level through a partnership and cooperation agreement with the European Union, which it hopes to initial in the near future. In the interest of the stability and development of Iraq, cooperation will cover all aspects of life under those agreements. Such cooperation will also have a positive impact on the entire region. The political changes and developments in the region known as the Arab Spring have confirmed the credibility of the political change that took place in Iraq in 2003. That the peoples of the region now aspire to the democratic system enjoyed by Iraq enhances the country's role in the Arab world and the region. Faced with these variables and developments, Iraq will require the support and assistance of UNAMI, in accordance with the mandate established for the Mission under the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Government of Iraq, while reiterating its wish that the Mission's mandate should be extended in accordance with the letter and spirit of the conditions set out in Security Council resolution 1770 (2007), hopes that the provision of assistance will be in accordance with specific mechanisms and with the prior approval of the Government of Iraq, in the manner referred to in my letter dated 6 August 2007.

The Government of Iraq values the advice, support and assistance of UNAMI, and looks forward to a more positive, effective and constructive role for the Mission with the return to work in Iraq of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Hoshyar **Zebari**
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of Iraq